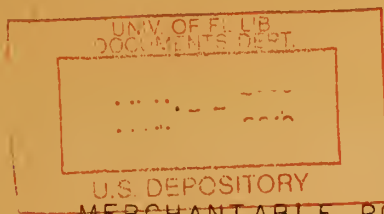


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.



March 15, 1945

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS AS OF
MARCH 1, 1945 WITH COMPARISONS

Stocks of merchantable potatoes held by growers and local dealers in the 37 late and intermediate States were 26 percent below the record March 1, 1944 stocks but 19 percent greater than the March 1, 1943 stocks. Estimates of the Department of Agriculture show holdings of 55,350,000 bushels on March 1 this year, compared with 74,980,000 bushels on March 1, 1944 and 46,350,000 bushels on March 1, 1943.

Ninety-six percent of the March 1, 1945 stocks were in the 18 surplus late States with growers and local dealers in Maine holding 36 percent of these stocks. Maine stocks of 20,050,000 bushels of potatoes were almost equal to the record holdings of 20,400,000 bushels held by growers and local dealers on March 1, 1944.

Potatoes available for marketing for food, seed and processing on and after March 1 are included in these estimates. However, potatoes held on farms for home consumption and for planting on producers' own farms, together with an allowance for the usual shrinkage and waste from March 1 to the end of the marketing season, are excluded from these estimates.

Marketings from the beginning of the season to March 1 in the 37 late and intermediate States are estimated at 185,851,000 bushels compared with marketings of 212,536,000 bushels to March 1, 1944 and 176,526,000 bushels to March 1, 1943. Potato shipments were delayed in January and February by a shortage of cars and bad weather in eastern and central States. Marketings of 49,310,000 bushels in January and February of this year were 16 percent below the 59,040,000 bushels marketed in these two months last year and 9 percent below the 54,430,000 bushels marketed in January and February 1943.

Shipments by rail and boat in January and February of this year amounted to 30,149,000 bushels or 61 percent of total disappearance in these months. Recorded rail and boat shipments of 36,440,000 bushels in January and February 1944 accounted for 62 percent of disappearance. A total of 31,496,000 bushels or 58 percent of disappearance in January and February 1943 moved by rail and boat.

POTATOES (IRISH): SEASON SALES AND MERCHANTABLE STOCKS IN HANDS OF GROWERS AND
LOCAL DEALERS JANUARY 1 AND MARCH 1 IN THE 37 LATE AND
INTERMEDIATE STATES - CROPS OF 1942, 1943 AND 1944

GROUP AND STATE	Quantity of		Quantity of		Merchantable Stocks Held by					
	potatoes sold		potatoes sold		Growers and Local Dealers					
	From	From	From	From	January 1	January 1	March 1			
	Crop of	Crop of	from crop	and for sale	1943	1944	1945	1943 1/	1944 1/	1945
Thousand bushels										
SURPLUS LATE										
STATES:										
Maine	38,090	60,052	49,037	26,530	35,200	31,820	14,200	20,400	20,050	
N.Y.	21,252	22,765	20,370	7,680	8,600	7,100	3,200	4,900	3,600	
Pa.	12,098	12,197	13,336	5,200	6,300	6,500	2,000	3,700	3,000	
Mich.	8,867	13,836	11,363	4,500	8,500	5,900	2,600	6,000	3,650	
Wis.	3,679	9,067	5,563	1,600	4,260	2,010	860	2,700	1,300	
Minn.	9,753	14,310	8,213	5,500	8,590	1/ 4,600	2,900	5,000	2,500	
N.Dak.	12,463	17,105	15,823	6,200	10,300	8,100	3,100	5,700	5,250	
S.Dak.	1,263	1,941	1,376	520	960	580	300	600	270	
Nebr.	9,621	8,785	6,319	5,400	4,800	1/ 2,900	1,650	2,500	500	
Mont.	942	1,439	1,655	600	820	950	360	600	470	
Idaho	25,186	35,532	31,300	12,850	18,500	13,100	5,000	8,500	6,250	
Wyo.	1,752	1,886	1,821	1,100	1,160	950	350	550	260	
Colo.	14,700	15,369	16,300	6,810	6,500	6,010	2,800	3,500	2,800	
Utah	1,890	2,544	2,300	960	1,300	970	580	800	550	
Nev.	375	499	447	260	320	260	100	130	100	
Wash.	5,772	10,207	8,433	2,300	3,220	2,020	1,200	1,750	800	
Oreg.	5,242	8,706	8,595	2,800	4,500	3,180	1,150	2,350	1,300	
Calif. (Late)	9,974	10,546	9,545	2,700	2,580	1,800	800	1,000	300	
TOTAL 18										
SURPLUS LATE	182,919	246,786	211,796	93,510	126,410	1/ 98,750	43,150	70,680	52,950	
TOTAL 12										
OTHER LATE	21,268	18,751	14,963	6,340	6,560	5,320	2,800	3,800	2,200	
TOTAL 7										
INTERMEDIATE	18,689	21,979	14,442	930	1,050	590	400	500	200	
TOTAL 37 LATE										
AND INTER-	222,876	287,516	241,201	100,780	134,020	1/ 104,660	46,350	74,980	55,350	
MEDIATE STATES										
1/ Revised										